



ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Robert Greene Sterne
Edward J. Kessler
Jorge A. Goldstein
David K.S. Cornwell
Robert W. Esmond
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin
Michele A. Cimbala
Michael B. Ray
Robert E. Sokohl
Eric K. Steffe
Michael Q. Lee
Steven R. Ludwig
John M. Covert
Linda E. Alcorn
Robert C. Millonig
Lawrence B. Bugaisky
Donald J. Featherstone
Michael V. Messinger

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Patrick E. Garrett
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Edward W. Yee
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Michael D. Specht
Andrea J. Kamage
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Jon E. Wright*

LuAnne M. Yuricek*
John J. Figueiroa
Ann E. Summerfield
Registered Patent Agents*
Karen R. Markowicz
Nancy J. Leith
Helene C. Carlson
Gaby L. Longsworth
Matthew J. Dowd
Aaron L. Schwartz
Angelique G. Uy
Mary B. Tung
Katrina Y. Pei
Bryan L. Skelton
Robert A. Schwartzman
Timothy A. Doyle
Jennifer R. Mahalingappa

Teresa A. Colella
Jeffrey S. Lundgren
Victoria S. Rutherford
Eric D. Hayes
Of Counsel
Kenneth C. Bass III
Lisa A. Dunner
Evan R. Smith

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June 16, 2003

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:
(202) 772-8589

INTERNET ADDRESS:
LARRYB@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Art Unit 1638

RECEIVED

JUN 18 2003

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/646,679; § 371 Date: February 22, 2001
For: **Signal Transduction Protein Involved in Plant Dehiscence**
Inventors: PAUL *et al.*
Our Ref: 0623.0890000/LBB/PAC

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Petition For Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1);
2. Fee Transmittal Form;
3. United States Patent & Trademark Office Credit Card Payment Form;
4. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111; and
5. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
June 16, 2003
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency,
or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Lawrence B. Bugaisky
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 35,086

LBB/PAC:dbj
Enclosures

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